

THE
PETITION

Of divers of His MAJESTIES
faithfull Subjects, of the true Pro-
testant Religion, in the County
Palatine of *Lancaster* :

Presented to His Majestie at *York* the last of
May, by the high Sheriffe of that Countie, and
divers other Gentlemen of Quality :

And subscribed by 64 Knights and Esquires,
55 Divines, 740 Gentlemen, and of Free-
holders and others above 7000.

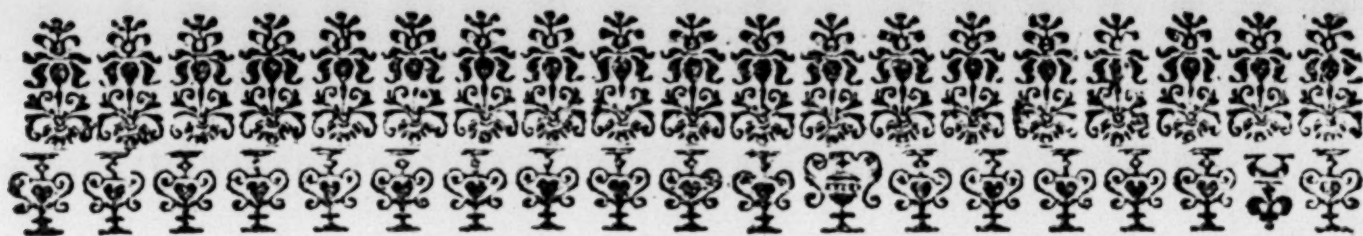
With His Majesties Answer,
June 6. 1642.



LONDON:

Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer
to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And
by the Assignes of JOHN BILL.
1642.





To the Sacred M A J E S T I E,
of our most Gracious Sovereign L O R D,

CHARLES

By the grace of God, of *England, Scotland, France,*
and *Ireland* King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

The humble Gratulation and Petition of divers
His Majesties faithfull Subjects of the true Protestant
Religion, within the County Palatine of *Lancaster*.

Most Gracious Sovereign,



He most reall and convincing Testimonies
of Your Princely care, for the advance-
ment of Gods true Religion in Your Ma-
jesties Realms, and the common good of
all Your Subjects, could no lesse then draw
from us (who have hitherto in these stirring times sat
still) this humble acknowledgement of our due and ne-
cessary Thanks.

We, with the inmost and choicest thoughts of our
souls, do esteem and prize Your Majesties most righteous
intentions, of governing Your Liege People according
to the wholesome Laws of this Kingdom, a thing so of-
ten, and with such earnestnesse avowed by Your Sacred

Majestie, whereunto we yeeld that heartie credence,
 which is due to so Religious and Righteous a Prince;
 We do also with all humilitie and thankfulnesse, ac-
 knowledge Your manifold and evident Manifestations
 to the world, that You affect not an Arbitrary Govern-
 ment, but the common prosperitie and happinesse of all
 Your loyall Subjects, by Your readinesse to joyn with
 Your Parliament, in a speedie raising of Forces, for a
 timely suppression of that odious Rebellion in *Ireland*;
 by Your late Proclamation, for the putting in due exe-
 cution the Laws against Papists; by Your most gracious
 condescending to the desires of Your great Councell, in
 signing the Bills for the Trienniall Parliament; for re-
 linquishing Your Title of Imposing upon Merchandize,
 and Power of pressing Souldiers; for the taking away
 of the Star-Chamber and High Commission Courts;
 for the Regulating of the Councell Table; as also the
 Bills for the Forrests, and Stannarie Courts, with other
 most necessary Acts: Moreover, we are confident, and
 well assured of Your Majesties Zeal, for the advance-
 ment of the true Protestant Religion, and with inexpress-
 sible joy do understand Your most Christian and Pious
 Resolution, for the preservation of those powerfull en-
 couragements of Industrie, Learning and Pietie, the
 Means and Honour of the Ministerie, for the mainte-
 nance and continuance of our Church Government,
 and solemn Liturgie of the Church, of long continued
 and generall Approbation of the most Pious and Learn-
 ed of this Nation, and of other Countreys, composed
 according to the Primitive Patern, by our blessed Mar-
 tyrs, and other Religious and Learned men: As also
 Your

Your gracious pleasure, that all abuses of Church and State shall be reformed, according to the modell of Queen *Elizabeths* dayes, of ever blessed and famous memory; By the one, You have weakened the hopes of the sacrilegious Devourers of the Churches Patrimoine; (if there be any such) And by the other, at once provided against all Popish Impieties and Idolatries, and also against the growing danger of Anabaptists, Brownists, and other Novellists; all which Pietie, Love, and Justice, we beseech God to return into Your Royall Bosome. But yet (most Gracious Sovereign) there is one thing that Sads our hearts, and hinders the perfection of our happinesse, which is the distance and misunderstanding between Your Majestie and Your Parliament, whereby the hearts of Your Subjects are filled with Fears and Jealousies, Justice neglected, Sacred Ordinances prophaned, and Trading impaired, to the impoverishing of many of Your Liege People: For the removall whereof, we cannot finde out any lawfull means, without Your Majesties Assistance and Direction.

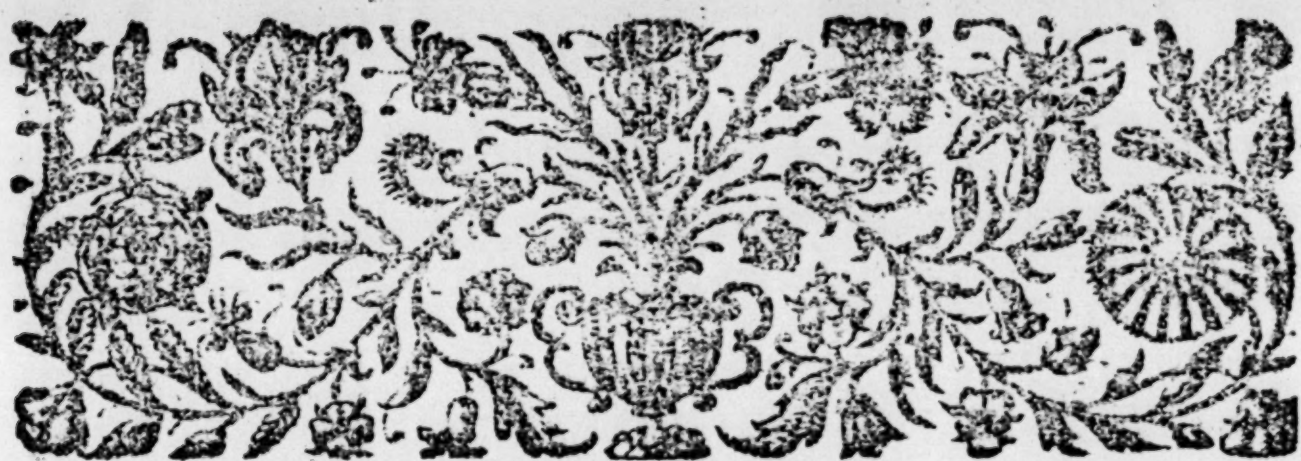
Wherefore we humbly beseech Your most Excellent Majestie to continue Your most Christian and Pious resolution of ruling Your People according to the Laws of the Land and maintaining of the same, of being a Zealous Defender of the established Doctrine, Liturgie, and Government of our Church, from Heresie, Libertinisme, and Prophanenesse, an Advancer of Learning, Pietie and Religion, an Encourager of painfull Orthodox Preachers; And whatsoever Your Parliament shall offer to Your Royall view, conducing to this Blessed end, the Common good, and tranquillitie of Your Subjects, to be pleased to condescend unto, and graciously to confirm. And with-

all to declare unto us some expedient way, how we may make a dutifull Addresse unto Your Parliament, for the taking away of those Differences and Impediments, which stay the happie proceedings of that most Honourable Ass:mbly, whereof Your Majestie is the Head, (which once removed, we doubt not but you will speedily be as neer Your Parliament in Person, as in Affection, that there may be a Blessed harmonie between Your Highnesse and that great Councell) And we shall with all Alacritie observe the same, humbly tendering our Lives and Fortunes for the preservation of Your Royall Person, Crown and Dignitie, according to our bounden Datie and Allegiance; And heartily praying for Your Majesties long and prosperous Reign over us.

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At

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At the Court at York, 6. Jun. 1642.

His M A J E S T I E hath commanded me
to give you this His Answer to your Petition.

That He is very glad to finde such
reall acknowledgements of those
great Graces which He hath boun-
tifully bestowed upon this His King-
dom of England, in the time of this
Parliament, & likewise it is a great
contentment to Him to finde so many true Sons
of the Church of England, as by your expressions in
the said Petition doth plainly appear to Him; Assu-
ring you that He shall not yeeld in His Zeal and
Constancie for the maintenance of the true Prote-
stant Profession, neither to Queen Elizabeth, nor to
His Father of ever blessed Memorie, both against
Popish Superstition on the one side, and Schis-
maticall Innovation and Confusion on the other.
In the last place, as He doth take in very good
part your desire of a good Understanding between
His Majestie and His two Houses of Parliament;
so

To likewise He cannot but much Commend the
 way that you take therein. And as for your directi-
 ons, if you will but seriously consider His Majesties
 just and necessary desires, expressed in His Answers
 and Declarations since His coming to York, your
 zeal and knowledge will not need more particular
 instructions to make such Addresses to both Houses
 of Parliament as the times require, and be-
 fitting such Loyall and true affected Sub-
 jects to your King and Countrey,
 as this Petition expresseth
 you to be.



FINIS.

